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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US98/02624 (22) International Filing Date: 10 February 1998 (10.02.98) (30) Priority Data: 08/799,691 11 February 1997 (11.02.97) US (71)(72) Applicant and Inventor: POWELL, Ken, R. [US/US]; Productive Technologies, Inc., Suite 203, 957 Baxter Street, Athens, GA 30606 (US). (74) Agent: JACKSON, Jerome, D.; Law Office of Jerome D. Jackson, Suite 100, 211 N. Union Street, Alexandria, VA 22314 (US).		(81) Designated States: AU, CA, JP, MX, NO, European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE). Published <i>Without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report.</i>
(54) Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR DISTRIBUTING AND PROCESSING DISCOUNT COUPONS (57) Abstract <p>A system for dispensing and redeeming electronic discount coupons in a store. A card-dispensing kiosk collects information from a customer and subsequently issues a "smart card" for storing electronic coupons. Upon completion of shopping, the customer redeems the electronic coupons at the check-out area, by inserting the card into the check-out station. During checkout, when UPC product data corresponds to coupons stored on the card, the customer is credited with the value of the corresponding coupon.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>10</p> <p>20</p> <p>30</p> <p>40</p> <p>50</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>55</p> <p>65</p> <p>75</p> </div> </div> <pre> graph TD 10[RECEIVE CUSTOMER DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION] --> 20[RECEIVE CUSTOMER COUPON SELECTION] 20 --> 30[STORE CUSTOMER INFORMATION IN ASSOCIATION WITH CARD IDENTIFIER] 30 --> 40[WRITE COUPONS ONTO CARD FROM STORAGE BIN] 40 --> 50[EJECT CARD FROM STORAGE BIN] 50 --> 55[SELECT PRODUCTS] 55 --> 65[REDEEM COUPONS BY READING CARD RAM] 65 --> 75[INSERT CARD IN COUPON DISPENSER TO WRITE ADDITIONAL COUPONS INTO CARD RAM] 75 --> 55 </pre>		